

# EXHIBIT A

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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
 NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
 SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION**

IN RE: UBER TECHNOLOGIES, INC.,  
 PASSENGER SEXUAL ASSAULT  
 LITIGATION

MDL No. 3084 CRB

**DECLARATION OF LAUREN A.  
 WELLING IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO  
 WITHDRAW AS COUNSEL FOR  
 PLAINTIFF R.D.**

This Document Relates to:

*R.D. v. Uber Technologies, Inc., et al;*  
*3:24-cv-05393-CRB*

I, Lauren A. Welling, declare:

1. I am an attorney at the law firm of Slater Slater Schulman LLP. I am admitted to practice before this Court. I make this declaration based on my own personal knowledge. If called upon to testify, I could and would testify competently to the truth of the matters stated herein.
2. Plaintiff, R.D. ("Plaintiff"), has not responded to any efforts to reach her made by myself or my office since September 3, 2024 and July 18, 2024. Prior to that, Plaintiff had not contacted our office since May 13, 2022.
3. Plaintiff's failure to communicate with our office has presented a circumstance covered by Rule 1.16(b)(4) of the California Rules of Professional Conduct. Our office is unable to meet discovery deadlines and otherwise prosecute her case without her input. It is my opinion that our withdrawal from the case has become necessary.

1           4. Under the California Rules of Professional Conduct 1.16(d), our office has taken all  
2 reasonably available steps to avoid prejudice to the rights of Plaintiff.

3           a. Throughout the course of our representation of Plaintiff since she had retained  
4 our office on May 11, 2022, she has been minimally responsive with only three  
5 (3) communications over the course of two and a half years, before ceasing  
6 communication altogether on September 3, 2024.

7           b. Before and throughout the time period described below since service of her  
8 Plaintiff Fact Sheet was due, Plaintiff received numerous letters, emails, text  
9 messages, telephone calls, and voice messages requesting that she contact our  
10 office. These communications included 19 unsuccessful phone calls with voice  
11 messages or where voice messages could not be left, 19 emails, three letters, and  
12 7 text messages. In these communications, our office repeatedly explained the  
13 need for her continued participation in the case, the risk that her case may be  
14 dismissed, and that our office would need to withdraw as counsel if she did not  
15 contact our office.

16           c. In advance of the Plaintiff Fact Sheet deadline in her case, our office mailed  
17 Plaintiff a blank Plaintiff Fact Sheet on three occasions and notified Plaintiff by  
18 telephone calls, emails, text messages, voice messages, and letters that we  
19 required input from her to complete her Plaintiff Fact Sheet but our office did not  
20 receive the requested information from her in advance of the deadline.

21           d. On September 18, 2024, having been unable to obtain sufficient information  
22 about Plaintiff's case, our office submitted a Plaintiff Fact Sheet on Plaintiff's  
23 behalf to avoid prejudice to her but could not complete the Plaintiff Fact Sheet  
24 without input from Plaintiff, resulting in numerous deficiencies. Our office  
25 notified Plaintiff by telephone call, email, text message, and letter that we needed  
26 input from her to correct the Plaintiff Fact Sheet deficiencies to avoid dismissal  
27 of her case but Plaintiff was unresponsive to our regular communication  
28

1 attempts.

2 e. Since September 18, 2024, all telephone calls to Plaintiff were directed straight  
3 to voicemail or indicated the telephone number was out of service and her  
4 voicemail box was inoperable.

5 f. On November 5, 2024, our office received a return to sender notification of our  
6 September 27, 2024 correspondence.

7 g. On November 19, 2024, our office communicated with counsel for Defendants  
8 via electronic mail of our intention to respond to Defendants deficiency letter  
9 regarding Plaintiff after speaking with her.

10 h. Since September 18, 2024, our office sent electronic mail messages to Plaintiff  
11 on September 20, 2024, September 23, 2024, October 8, 2024, October 10, 2024,  
12 October 15, 2024, October 18, 2024, November 11, 2024, November 14, 2024,  
13 December 2, 2024, December 5, 2024, December 10, 2024, December 12, 2024,  
14 December 13, 2024, December 20, 2024, December 30, 2024, January 3, 2025,  
15 January 7, 2025 and January 10, 2025.

16 i. On December 13, 2024, December 30, 2024, January 3, 2025, January 7, 2025  
17 and January 10, 2025, our office sent electronic mail messages to Plaintiff  
18 explaining that if she did not contact us immediately, we would take steps to  
19 withdraw as counsel; these communications offered Plaintiff a deadline by which  
20 to contact our office.

21 j. Plaintiff did not respond to any of these communications and her telephone  
22 number was out of service.

23 5. During this time period, our office communicated with Defendants about the  
24 deficiencies in Plaintiff's Plaintiff Fact Sheet.

25 6. On December 20, 2024, our office and I had a meet and confer call with counsel for  
26 Defendants and conveyed our intention to withdraw from Plaintiff's representation.

27 7. To date, Plaintiff has not agreed to voluntarily dismiss her claims and has not informed  
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our office that alternative counsel has been retained.

8. Our withdrawal from this case will not impact the timing or schedule of this litigation, and our office has taken all reasonable steps possible to avoid prejudice to Plaintiff by informing her of her options and the consequences of failing to comply with case deadlines.

9. I understand that, pursuant to Local Rule 11-5(b), leave to withdraw may be conditioned on our office continuing to accept papers to forward to Plaintiff. In compliance with Local Rule 11-5(b), our office accepts this responsibility.

Executed this 13<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2025 in Beverly Hills, California.

/s/ Lauren A. Welling      =  
Lauren A. Welling

*Attorneys for Plaintiff*